



West Dean Church of England Primary School

West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RJ

Telephone: 01243 811247



We do our best in all we do, with God's love.

'Love one another. As I have loved you, so must you love one another.' John 13

Newsletter 25 20.03.26

Unfortunately, our overall attendance level for the year has dropped to **95.9%**. Any schools that fall below 96% are a cause for concern. Let's try to get our attendance back up to a healthy position please.

Don't forget to check out Rev Sarah's Rector's Rambling this week, which can be viewed by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Beech Class Science Fair On Thursday afternoon, [Beech Class](#) held their Whizzpopping Science Fair to which parents and families were invited. We had several different stations, each featuring an enchanting assortment of learning from the term. Parents were encouraged to participate in the interactive elements of the fair, such as 'Digestive System Bingo', 'Solids, liquids, gases' (rock, paper, scissors) and various quizzes. There were demonstrations to enjoy and investigations to observe and participate in. The afternoon concluded with a spectacular performance of The Water Cycle Song. Parents left glowing reviews such as "What wonderful work. We are so inspired by the amount of creativity and originality in all their work". Another parent commented, "Thanks for a lovely time. Very educational and interactive. Loved the singing!" Thank you so much to everyone who came to our Whizzpopping Science Fair. Beech Class loved having you here.



Apple and Maple Class Exhibitions — Parents were dazzled by an impressive array of learning on Wednesday as both Apple and Maple Classes put on a show of their work from this term to their parents. There were all things insect related from our Apples, including some incredible artwork and very characterful creatures made in DT. The Maples showed off their knowledge of endangered animals and habitats, in particular the rainforests. Little did the parents know that their children had, at some point this term, ventured into the rainforest itself, for some on location filming of a very informative video! David Attenborough would be proud of them and we certainly are too!



We had some lovely egg designs for the Easter competition this week, but Pupil Parliament have disappeared off with the results and pictures of the winners, so we will chase them down and celebrate that next week!



South coast Sports—After School Provision:

Please be advised that summer term Multisports club is now live and bookings can be made using the link below or the logo above.

<https://southcoastsports.ipalbookings.com/>

News from West Dean 'Friends' Spring Term Events: Save the Dates!



'Pre-loved Uniform: westdeanuniform@gmail.com. If you have any specific requirements from our pre-loved uniform, don't wait for the next sale, you can email us to see if we have what you need!

Friends Easter Event

The children all had a lot of fun being creative and decorating their eggs this week. Our Pupil Parliament judged the children's designs and a prize was awarded for each year group. Thank you to everyone who baked and bought for our Easter Bake Sale on this week. Over two days we raised an amazing **£336.47!**



Comic Relief—Red Nose Day

The children all looked amazing today dressed in their red noses, clothes and accessories! Thank you to everyone for supporting Comic Relief.

There is still time to make a donation on Arbor or you can drop cash into the office. We will let you know the final amount donated next week.

Grounds Morning—Saturday 18th April, 09.30—12.30

Once everyone has had time to relax over the Easter holiday, we would be really grateful if you would give us a few hours of your time on the Saturday morning at the end of the first week back at school. There are a lot of jobs to do at this time of year to get our lovely grounds tidied and looking their best ready for the children to enjoy throughout the summer term.

Once you get going, Grounds Mornings are always a fun, social time and there's no truer phrase than 'many hands make light work'. There will be plenty of digging, pruning, weeding and sweeping to do and possibly the odd repair job too, so something for everyone to get stuck into.



We are really fortunate to have such expansive grounds, and your children adore being outside as much as possible during the warm summer weather. However, it is a challenge to keep everything maintained without your support. We can promise a refreshing drink mid-morning and quite possibly a treat too, so come along and join the fun. Any general garden tools that you are able to bring are always welcome—we have some but never enough. Do make sure you label or keep a keen eye on your own tools. **See you there on the 18th April.**

Some exciting news

In response to our 'Friends' plea for support from local businesses, we have been working with Matt Lindsay from Growing Revolution, who is going to help us with installing a 'Living Wall' in school.

Matt will be coming in to introduce this to the children during an assembly on Thursday 26th March.

Do have a look at their website:

<https://www.growingrevolution.com>

Matt has very kindly offered our school community a very generous 15% discount, see details below:

15% discount across our website for all West Dean Primary staff and parents. You will need to enter **WESTDEAN15** at checkout to redeem this.





29th March
3pm - 5pm

East Dean Village Hall

*Crafts, activities, food, songs, and
worship.*

**For all Primary and Pre School
Children**

*Registration and start @ 3pm
Please bring an adult with you*

Check us out on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/
ValleyParish](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyParish) and book your place or email
priestvalleyparish@gmail.com

Bishop Luffa School, part of the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership, are currently seeking to appoint a Teaching Assistant to join their friendly, dedicated and motivated team.

If you, or anyone you know are interested in this role, please see information booklet for further details, along with a copy of our application form, all of which are also available on our school website at the link below:

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/home/vacancies/>

The closing date for applications is Monday 23rd March and the application form should be sent to Nicky Christopher, Head Teacher's PA, at HeadsPA@bishopluffa.org.uk



Full time SEND Teaching Assistant Vacancy



Salary: Grade 3 (£24,796 – £25,185 pro rata) or Grade 4 (£25,583 - £25,989) pro rata) - Depending on Experience

Required ASAP

Lavant C.E. Primary School is looking to appoint an enthusiastic and resourceful Teaching Assistant to join our dedicated and experienced staff team, to provide 1:1, and group support.

The position is initially for one year but is hoped to be extended dependent on additional EHCP funding.

The vacancy is for 5 days a week, 8:30am - 3:15pm term time only.

The successful candidate will:

- Have experience of working with children with SEND;
- Have the ability to support the teachers and children in raising standards of achievement and attainment;
- Provide support for individual pupils inside and outside the classroom to enable them to fully participate in activities;
- Be familiar with class-teacher's planning in order to successfully support the pupils within their mainstream lessons;
- Deliver specific programmes of work through small groups such as, sensory skills, life skills and speech and language;
- Support pupils with emotional or behavioural problems and help develop their social skills;
- Work with other professionals, such as speech therapists and occupational therapists, as necessary;
- Be a confident and competent user of IT;
- Be an excellent team player and communicator;
- Be committed to pupil and staff well-being and the need to safeguard children;
- Be calm and patient;
- Be required to supervise children at lunchtime play;

Applications are invited from experienced and/or qualified candidates who will be able to make a positive commitment to this thriving school.

The school can offer you:

- Enthusiastic children;
- A very supportive and friendly team;
- Opportunities for CPD/training;

We would encourage you to make an appointment to come and visit us and our school. Please contact the School Office to arrange a time.

Early Help Service



SEND Event

Chichester Family Hub

St James Road, Chichester, PO19 7AB

Join us for lots of sensory fun and messy play

Monday 30th March

We have two sessions running on the day

10.00am - 11.30am

1.30pm - 3.00pm

Open to all families with a child with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) up to age 11, and their siblings.

To book your place at this FREE event,

please call the Hub: 01243 642950

For additional information please email.

ChichesterFamilyHub@westsussex.gov.uk





Join us for one of our special Easter boat trips in Chichester Harbour

Kids
tickets
starting
from just
£5!

- Harbour Discovery**  Guided tour of our special harbour, departing Itchenor.
- Easter Special**  Easter hunt, spring activities & a chocolate treat for all.
- Seal Safari**  Three-hour trip to visit our special seals (age 8+).
- Birds Ahoy!**  Meet the special birds of Chichester Harbour - all ages

All aboard 'Solar Heritage' our solar-powered, eco-friendly tour boat



www.boattripschichesterharbour.co.uk

Gift vouchers and private hire available



in partnership with
westsussexwest
School Sport Partnership



ARENA
SPORTS CENTRE

Ring
reception
to book:
01243
870000

Easter holiday camps

Sessions run by experienced & qualified teachers,
coaches & School Games Organisers. Activities include:

**Football, Tag rugby, Golf, Athletics, Striking
& Fielding, Arts & Crafts and much more!**

Please note activities may vary daily

Bookings open **Monday 2nd March** (limited places available)

Arena Sports Centre 09:00-15:00

School years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Academic year 24-25)

Date **Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April**

(individual day bookings available)

£19.75 or £74 for all 4 days! - Includes a hot meal!

All children accessing benefits related free school meals can access for free via HAF, check with West Sussex County Council for more information.

HAF places please book via the WSCC website:

www.westsussex.gov.uk/haf

Booking deadline Wednesday 25th March

Please contact us for booking:

Tel 01243 870000 www.arenasportscentre.com

Email **bookings@arenasportscentre.com**

Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 5JD





WEST DEAN WAC CLUB

DAY	CRAFT / ACTIVITY	SPORTS/PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
Monday	BOARD GAME DAY/Arts and Crafts	Basketball
Tuesday	DRAWING CLUB	Tennis
Wednesday	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS DAY/ Arts and Crafts	Striking and Fielding
Thursday	Construction Club/Arts Crafts	Football
Friday	Nature Club/Arts and Crafts	Skittles/bowling

How to Book

Step 1: Register for an account on our iPAL booking system or if you already have one go to <https://activ4forkids.ipalbookings.com>

Step 2: Verify your account and create a profile for each child

Step 3: Select your chosen session(s) and book.

We offer 3 different sessions: After School Early Session 3.00-4.30. Includes a small healthy snack After School.

Late Session: 4.15/30-6.00pm We will collect your child from a club at the school. Includes a healthy light tea Full After School session: After school until 6.00pm Includes a small healthy snack on arrival and a healthy light tea at 5pm.



Easter HAF Holiday Clubs

HAF spaces are free to children in receipt of benefits related free school meals

30TH MARCH - 10TH APRIL 08.30AM - 4.30PM

Our friendly, experienced team creates a safe and welcoming environment where children can build confidence, make new friends and enjoy their time to the fullest.



- Free hot meal provided
- Send spaces available
- 4 Sessions available
- Snacks included



East Preston Infant School | St Margarets C of E Primary School | Chichester Free School

Multi-sports | Dance | Drama | Crafts | Free Play | Board games | & More

<https://haf.bookinglab.co.uk/westsussex/37147/login>




Music & ICT Workshops

- Use computer software to create sounds and compose music.
- Experiment with microphones to record voice and instruments.
- Use software to change and manipulate sounds.
- Use other equipment [drum machines and theremins, etc] to create sounds.
- Save work and burn it onto CD.

Other Music Workshops

I am able to deliver other music workshops related to literacy texts, science and history topics.

Extra-Curricular Activities

I offer a range of club activities. These can be tailored to meet the needs of any age range or mixed age group.

The activities include: Harmonica Ensemble, Ukulele Orchestra, Percussion Club and Music & ICT.

The charge can be per child or by the hour. More information about activities, clubs, or workshops can be found on my website.

Contact



Daniel Gilmore B.Ed Hons Music
Tel: 01903 297 048
Mob: 07771 880 482
daniel@sussexmusicworkshops.co.uk
sussexmusicworkshops.co.uk



SUSSEX MUSIC WORKSHOPS



sussexmusicworkshops.co.uk



Yr R Lily - for your fantastic reading! Super sounding out and a great story voice!

Yr 1 - Barnaby - for your positive attitude towards your learning! Keep it up.

Yr 2 Delilah - for your excellent participation in all our class activities. You contribute lovely ideas and are enthusiastic with all your learning. You are a lovely friend and very thoughtful to your classmates. Well done.

Yr 3 Barney P - for being our food chains expert. It was wonderful to hear you sharing your extensive knowledge.

Yr 4 Harry - for your calm and mature attitude and approach to life in Beech Class, a highly responsible and kind boy. Well done!

Yr 5 Hettie H - for showing increased confidence in your maths and applying strategies successfully.

Yr 6 Reuben - for your consistent happy, positive and polite manner. You are an asset to our classroom and the school!



2025/26 INSET Days

Monday 23rd February 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026



Spring Term 2026

Tuesday 6th January—Friday 27th March

Half term break—Monday 16th to Friday 20th February

Clarification and a polite plea — We have had some question from parents about the drop-off routine in the morning, which we are more than happy to clarify. **All children** should be on the playground ready to line up by **8.30am**. Reception children should be at their classroom door by this time. If you arrive after this time and the children have left the playground, **even if there are still parents standing on the playground**, please enter school through the front door. We need to close our gates at this time and often, as we try to close one gate, some families are rushing in via another gate and then we accidentally trap people! **By 8.30am—playground please. After 8.30am or no children on playground—enter via the front door.** Thank you.

Tuesday 24th March	8.30, 'Friends' Meeting in pavilion, all welcome—Summer Sizzler planning
Tuesday 24th March	Beech Class visit to CFT for BFG
Tuesday 24th March	2.30, Chestnut Class Open Classroom
Wednesday 25th March	8.30, Westgate Swimming, Yr 3,4,5 (Last Session)
Wednesday 25th March	SSP Arun Swim Gala
Wednesday 25th March	6.30, Chichester Runners Corporate Challenge
Thursday 26th March	Matt Lindsay, Growing Revolution Assembly, to introduce our Living Wall
Thursday 26th March	Beech Class, CFT Poetry Workshop in school
Thursday 26th March	1.30, Chestnut Class BLLP Poetry Project at Chichester Baptist Church
Friday 27th March	8.45, Palm Sunday Procession to West Dean Church from school. Families welcome to join us. Final Day of Spring Term.
	Easter Holidays
Monday 13th April	First day of the Summer Term
Thursday 16th April	9.00-1.00, Apple Class visit to Nyewood Infants School re Trust Project
Monday 20th April	Open the Book Assembly in school
Tuesday 21st April	Chichester Falcons Baseball, in school, Chestnut Class
Tuesday 21st April	3.00-5.00, Parent Consultation Evening (booking opening after the Easter break)
Wednesday 22nd April	3.00-6.00, Parent Consultation Evening (booking opening after the Easter break)
Thursday 23rd April	SSP Future Flyers at Westgate (selected children)
Tuesday 28th April	Hugo Van Driel Assembly in school
Friday 8th May	Cathedral Enrichment Day KS2 (selected children tbc)
Saturday 9th May	Chichester Cormorants Swim Gala (details to follow)
Monday 11th May	SATs Week
Tuesday 19th May	Dancehouse—rehearsal and performance for Dance Club
Wednesday 20th May	Open The Book Worship in School